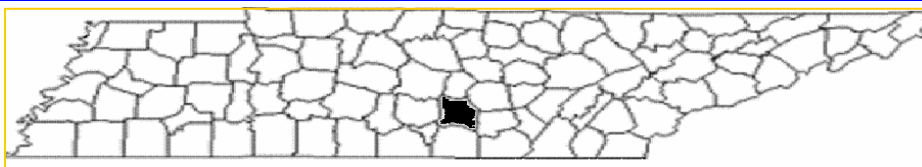


The Status of Women in Coffee County



STATUS OF WOMEN IN COFFEE COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW

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| INDICATOR | DATA | COUNTY RANKING |
|---|----------|------------------|
| | | (of 95 Counties) |
| COMPOSITE EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS INDEX | 68.80 | 86 |
| Women's Annual Earnings | \$21,014 | 47 |
| Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings (Wage Gap) | 64.2% | 92 |
| Women's Labor Force Participation Rate | 42.9% | 36 |
| Female Unemployment Rate | 7.6% | 78 |
| Women in Managerial or Professional Occupations | 21.3% | 91 |
| COMPOSITE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY INDEX | 46.75 | 42 |
| Businesses that are Women-Owned (% of total) | 20.9% | 50 |
| Women with a Four-Year College Degree (%) | 10.4% | 42 |
| Women With a High School Diploma (%) | 74.4% | 25 |
| Female High School Dropout Rate | 7.9% | 59 |
| Women with any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage (%) | 92.9% | 35 |
| Women Earning Incomes Below the Poverty Level (%) | 15.4% | 42 |
| Single Female-Headed Households Living In Poverty (%) | 10.3% | 60 |
| Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 10-19) | 36.5 | 61 |

Report Overview: This publication on the Status of Women in Coffee County is part of a statewide publication of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, *The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties, 2004*. The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under TCA § 4-50-100, et seq. by the One Hundredth General Assembly in 1998 to address the economic needs of Tennessee women.

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

COFFEE

Women have taken remarkable strides towards economic equality, from education to earnings to political participation. Women are now pursuing goals such as business ownership, leadership roles in their careers, and election to state and federal political office. However, obstacles still exist in the climb toward equality. Nationwide, equal numbers of men and women are obtaining four-year college degrees; however, these gains have not translated into pay equity. The average college-educated woman working full time earns \$44,200 a year compared to \$61,800 for men in the same category. Women are still under-represented in many of the highest paying, fastest growing sectors of the economy. Helping women break into these traditionally male-dominated areas like computer science, engineering, mathematics and technology, as well as all skilled-labor positions, gives women tools for self-sufficiency and understanding of their personal capabilities, and these advances are good for the economy of our counties and of our state.

Employment and Earnings

The employment and earnings index includes data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation, female unemployment, and percentages of women in professional or managerial occupations.

- ◇ Women in Coffee County have median annual earnings of \$21,014; men in the county have median annual earnings of \$32,313.
- ◇ Coffee County ranks in the bottom five counties in two employment and earnings indicators: wage gap (64.2%) and percent of women in managerial or professional occupations (21.3%).
- ◇ Women make up 45.1% of the labor force in Coffee County but have a labor force participation rate of only 42.9%.
- ◇ The female unemployment rate is 7.6% , doubling the overall county unemployment rate of 3.8%.
- ◇ Of working women in Coffee County 21.3% are employed in managerial or professional occupations. 27.9% of all employed persons work in such occupations in the county.

Economic Autonomy

The economic autonomy index includes information on educational attainment, business ownership and general quality of life issues.

- ◇ Over a quarter of women in the county (25.6%) do not have a high school diploma, and the current female high school dropout rate is almost 8 percent.
- ◇ 10.4% of women in Coffee County have a four-year degree or better which is low compared to the percentage of all county residents over 25 with a four-year degree or better (17.5%).
- ◇ 15.4% of women living in Coffee County are earnings wages below the poverty level.
- ◇ Though 10.9% of all families in the county are living below the poverty level, 34.1% of female-householder families with no husband present are in poverty.
- ◇ Women account for 51.3% of the county population and for 52.6% of eligible voters in the county, but only 3 out of 21 county commissioners are women.
- ◇ Women-owned businesses in Coffee County make up 20.9% of privately-owned businesses but only account for 4.8% of the total sales and receipts of privately-owned firms in the county.

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

COFFEE

| | | Coffee County | Rank of Coffee County | Highest Ranking County |
|----------|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Earnings | Median Annual Earnings for FT Females | \$21,014 | 47 | Williamson: \$32,243 |
| | Wage Gap | 64.2% | 92 | Davidson: 82.1% |

| | | | | |
|------------|---|-------|----|-------------------|
| Employment | Female Labor Force Participation Rate | 42.9% | 36 | Rutherford: 50.9% |
| | Female Unemployment Rate | 7.6% | 78 | Pickett: 1.5% |
| | Percent of Employed Females in Management, Prof., and Related Occupations | 21.3% | 91 | Anderson: 44.6% |
| | Women Owned Business % of Total | 20.9% | 50 | Moore: 63.3% |

| | | | | |
|-----------|--|-------|----|--------------------|
| Education | % of Females with 4 Year Degree or Better | 10.4% | 42 | Williamson: 39.5% |
| | % of Females with High School Diploma (or equivalency) | 74.4% | 25 | Williamson: 90.6% |
| | Female Dropout Rate | 7.9% | 59 | Clay/Pickett: 0.0% |

| | | | | |
|------------|--|-------|----|------------------|
| Lifestyles | % of Women with any kind of Health Insurance Coverage | 92.9% | 35 | Williamson: 100% |
| | % of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes | 15.4% | 42 | Williamson: 5.4% |
| | % of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty | 10.3% | 60 | Williamson: 2.5% |
| | Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000 | 36.5 | 61 | Williamson: 1.2% |

ABOUT THE COUNCIL AND THIS REPORT

Coffee County

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percentage of women in managerial occupations.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of households headed by a single female, single female headed households living in poverty, percentage of women with health insurance, the high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Tennessee Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

| SOURCES | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Earnings and Employment | |
| Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Earnings) | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Female Labor Force Participation Rate | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Female Unemployment Rate | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Percent of Employed Females in Management, Professional, and Related Occupations | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Economic Autonomy | |
| Women-owned Business, Percent of total | Economic Census, 1997 |
| Percent of Females w/4yr Degree or Better | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Percent of Females with a High School Diploma (or equivalency) | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Female Dropout Rate | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Percent of Women with Any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage | Tennessee Department of Health, 2002 |
| Percent of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Percent of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty | U.S Census Bureau, 2000 |
| Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000 | Tennessee Department of Health, 2002 |
| Voter Demographics and Elected County Officials | National Association of Counties |